

CLAIMS:

1. A method of bypassing a blocked voice channel of a mobile phone system comprising:

- 5 initiating a call request from a mobile phone;
 scanning a plurality of control channels of a first carrier;
 measuring a signal strength of the control channel;
 requesting service access on a first control channel of the first
carrier based on the signal strength;
10 receiving a blocked signal indicating no availability of a voice
channel on the first control channel of the first carrier;
 selecting a second control channel of the first carrier in response to
the blocked signal, based on the signal strength; and
 requesting service access on the second control channel of the first
15 carrier.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the mobile phone system is an analog cellular phone system.

20 3 The method of claim 2 wherein the analog cellular phone system
operates within a prescribed band between nominally 824.04 MHz and 893.97
MHz.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
25 receiving a blocked signal indicating no availability of a voice
channel on the second control channel of the first carrier;
 selecting a next strongest control channel of the first carrier in
response to the blocked signal based on the signal strength; and
 requesting service access on the next strongest control channel of
30 the first carrier.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the voice channel uses a service selected from a group consisting of voice telephony, short messaging, paging, voice mail, electronic mail, call forwarding, caller identification, call waiting,
5 conference calling, broadcast messages, voice band data, facsimile data, data transmission, modem access, direct access to computer networks, registration, authentication and access to emergency services.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
10 increasing priority for emergency services.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the priority for emergency services is increased by reducing wait time during the call request.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the call request is automatically initiated in response to an emergency.
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9. The method of claim 8 wherein the emergency is indicated by the deployment of an air bag on a mobile vehicle carrying the mobile phone.
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10. The method of claim 8 wherein the call request includes a geographical location of a mobile vehicle.

11. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
25 determining whether a vehicle carrying the mobile phone is within a predetermined vehicle speed range; and
selecting the second control channel of the first carrier when the vehicle is within the predetermined vehicle speed range.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the predetermined vehicle speed range is between about 0 and 10 miles per hour.

5 13. A computer usable medium including a program for bypassing a blocked voice channel of a mobile phone system, comprising:

computer program code for initiating a call request from a mobile phone;

10 computer program code for scanning a plurality of control channels of a first carrier;

computer program code for measuring a signal strength of the control channel;

computer program code for requesting service access on a first control channel of the first carrier based on the signal strength;

15 computer program code for receiving a blocked signal indicating no availability of a voice channel on the first control channel of the first carrier;

computer program code for selecting a second control channel of the first carrier in response to the blocked signal, based on the signal strength; and

20 computer program code for requesting service access on the second control channel of the first carrier.

14. The computer usable medium of claim 13, further comprising:

25 computer program code for receiving a blocked signal indicating no availability of a voice channel on the second control channel of the first carrier;

computer program code for selecting a next strongest control channel of the first carrier in response to the blocked signal based on the signal strength; and

30 computer program code for requesting service access on the next strongest control channel of the first carrier.

15. The computer usable medium of claim 13, further comprising:
computer program code for increasing priority for emergency
services.

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16. The computer usable medium of claim 13, further comprising:
computer program code for automatically initiating the call request
in response to an emergency.

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17. The computer usable medium of claim 16 wherein the emergency
is indicated by the deployment of an on-board air bag.

18. The computer usable medium of claim 16 wherein the call request
includes a geographical location of a mobile vehicle.

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19. The computer usable medium of claim 14, further comprising:
computer program code for determining whether a vehicle carrying
the mobile phone is within a predetermined vehicle speed range.

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20. A blocked voice channel bypassing system comprising:
means for initiating a call request from a mobile phone;
means for scanning a plurality of control channels of a first carrier;
means for measuring a signal strength of the control channel;
means for requesting service access on a first control channel of
25 the first carrier based on the signal strength;
means for receiving a blocked signal indicating no availability of a
voice channel on the first control channel of the first carrier;
means for selecting a second control channel of the first carrier in
response to the blocked signal, based on the signal strength; and
30 means for requesting service access on the second control channel
of the first carrier.

21. The system of claim 20 further comprising:
means for receiving a blocked signal indicating no availability of a
voice channel on the second control channel of the first carrier;

5 means for selecting a next strongest control channel of the first
carrier in response to the blocked signal based on the signal strength; and
means for requesting service access on the next strongest control
channel of the first carrier.

10 22. The system of claim 20 wherein the means for initiating a call
request from a mobile phone includes an analog cellular phone system operating
within a prescribed band between nominally 824.04 MHz and 893.97 MHz.

15 23. The system of claim 20 further comprising:
means for increasing priority for emergency services.

20 24. The system of claim 20 further comprising:
means for determining whether a vehicle carrying the mobile phone
is within a vehicle speed range.